FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Iran handed its "final reply" on terms for the release of the U.S. hostages to the Algerian delegation on 18 December. Tehran radio, citing a PARS interview with Minister of State Behzad Nabavi, said the reply includes "certain amendments" to the U.S. proposals to make them "congruent" with the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages and "reliable methods" to guarantee the "proper implementation" of U.S. commitments. Regarding the four Majlis conditions, the reply "requested" that a U.S. statement on noninterference in Iran's internal affairs "accurately tally" with this condition. The reply characterized the U.S. response to the other three conditions as on the whole "acceptable" and said the main point is "guaranteeing these undertakings" so they "should be completely reliable." In addition to signing the agreement, the reply continued, the United States, prior to the release of the hostages, must transfer the frozen assets to the Algerian Central Bank. As to claims against the late shah's wealth, the reply said "acceptable guarantees" of good will should be given to Algeria to support efforts by Iran to recover these assets. In "a gesture of good will," the reply went on, Iran agreed to jointly investigate claims against the two nations provided "American claims in connection with the Islamic revolution or with the occupation of the spy den will not be the result of subsequent reactions by the U.S. Government."

Iran Domestic Affairs

Armed Forces Warning--An armed forces communique, reported by Tehran radio, warned that although previous "attacks and conspiracies" against the Islamic revolution had been "foiled" by the "decisive leadership" of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, a new "aggression against the holy principle of velayat-e faqih" (Islamic jurisconsult) is being plotted "in the shape of struggle against the clergy." The armed forces, the communique said, will "not tolerate" any insult to the holy principle.

Farzami Execution--AFP reported that a former editor of the banned French-language JOURNAL DE TEHRAN, Simon Farzami, was executed on 16 December on charges of working for the U.S. Embassy. Iranian prosecutors said a document found in the embassy proved his guilt, although other evidence was also cited against him.

Khomeyni Speech--Ayatollah Khomeyni told a group of university and theological students that Tehran University will remain closed until it can be changed to serve the nation's interest. In his speech, carried by Tehran radio, Khomeyni said the university has served as a "war office" for members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party, communists and other "hypocritical groups," making it a "center of all sorts of corruption." "Whether we like it or not," he continued, "it is the university that is dragging us toward America or the Soviet Union," and this must not be allowed to happen. Khomeyni called for changes in universities and theological institutions to upgrade the teachers' commitment to Islam and to save Iran "from both present and future parasites engaged in mischief making."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported more fighting around Ahvaz and Susangerd with Iranian forces foiling an Iraqi attempt to bridge the Karkheh Kur River. An Iranian Joint Staff communique, reported by Tehran radio, said Iranian Air Force planes hit Iraqi targets around Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr) while the two sides continued to exchange artillery fire in Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb, Dezful and Shush and along the Malekshashi heights.

Gulf Islands

Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia denied any Algerian mediation or initiative between the UAE and Iran over the three disputed Gulf islands. In an interview with Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-WAHDAH, reported by QNA, the foreign minister said a previous report of an Algerian mediation attempt by a Gulf newspaper was unfounded.

Israel

Raid Into Lebanon--Israeli Defense Force units struck into Lebanon northwest of the Litani River to attack a Palestinian base camp used to stage raids into Israel, Jerusalem Radio reported. Citing an IDF spokesman, the radio said the raiders hit an area around Al-Mahmudiyah, destroying buildings and bunkers used to shelter and supply the terrorists. Reporting on the raid, Beirut radio said Israeli artillery shelled various villages during the attack while Israeli planes attacked other targets in southern Lebanon. Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the radio added, charged that it was part of "a chain of aggression" by Israel to clear the Lebanese out of the southern part of the country and "pave the way for its expansionist designs." Earlier, Jerusalem radio noted that the Israeli-backed Christian militia in Lebanon had attacked other Palestinian bases in response to increasing harassment of the Christian enclaves.

Labor Party Vote--According to Jerusalem radio, Shim'on Peres handily won the election for the chairmanship of the Labor Party over his main rival, Yitzhaq Rabin. Peres garnered over 70 percent of the vote among party convention delegates, the radio said, and will stand as the party's candidate for the prime ministership in the upcoming Knesset election.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat affirmed their "complete faith" in the Camp David peace process in a joint statement issued to mark the end of U.S. Ambassador Sol Linowitz's work in the autonomy negotiations. In the statement the two leaders noted that "considerable progress" has been made in the negotiations but much remains to be done. They thanked President Jimmy Carter for his efforts and expressed pleasure that President-elect Ronald Reagan has confirmed his commitment to the negotiations.

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has expressed Saudi Arabia's opposition to "any Western presence" in the Gulf, adding that if there is a Western presence, the Soviet Union will use it to justify its intervention in the region. In remarks reported by SPA, the oil minister, who is in Australia on a weeklong visit, said that the West "could be our ally" if it abandons "its blind support" for Israel and supports the Palestinians' right to a homeland. Turning to oil matters, Yamani foresaw no sharp increases in oil prices in 1981 but called on the importing countries to reduce their consumption of oil.

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VOP REPORTS ISRAELI LANDINGS IN LEBANON 19 DEC

NC190616 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Last night the Zionist-isolationist alliance escalated its aggression: A Zionist force carried out a landing operation in the Al-Jarmaq area and launched an attack against the Al-'Ayshiyah area under cover of an intensive artillery shelling. Moreover, the Zionist enemy carried out other landing operations against Al-Khardali Bridge and Al-Mahmudiyah. The joint forces heroically resisted the aggression, forcing the enemy to withdraw. The military spokesman of the joint forces central command has made the following statement:

At 2225 last night, the isolationist-Zionist enemy commenced artillery fire against the Ar-Rashidiyah area; at the same time, Zionist enemy helicopters began intensive sorties over the Kafra area. At 2130 the isolationist-Zionist enemy expanded its artillery shelling to include Wadi al-Mazra'ah. At 0015 the enemy advanced toward the Al-'Ayshiyah area on the following axes: Al-Khardali Bridge, Al-Mahmudiyah, Ad-Dimashqiyah with a force estimated at an infantry battalion [katibah], including various vehicles as well as artillery and rocket support and helicopters. Our forces engaged the enemy with various weapons. The artillery and rocket attack continued and extended to An-Nabatiyah, Al-'Ayshiyah and the neighboring areas.

At 0130 the enemy began to withdraw in the direction of Marj 'Uyun under the concentrated shelling of the joint forces. At 0200 Zionist enemy movements were seen in the direction of Al-Qulay'at. At 0205 the enemy commenced artillery fire against the Al-Qulay'at and Habbush area. At 0230 the enemy began an artillery and rocket attack against the Ar-Rayhan area. This action was coupled with intensive overflights by aircraft in the area. The shelling was continued until 0315, but the clashes have stopped.

MINISTER DENIES ALGERIAN MEDIATION ON GULF ISLANDS

NC181046 Doha QNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Dec (QNA)--Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia has denied that there is an Algerian mediation or initiative between the UAE and Iran over the three [Gulf] islands. Ben Yahia affirmed that the relevant report published yesterday by a UAE newspaper and attributed to a member of the delegation accompanying Ben Yahyia is unfounded. Ben Yahia, who concluded a visit to the UAE yesterday, made this denial in an interview published in today' edition of the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper AL-WAHDAH. He said that this problem requires a discussio by UAE and Iranian officials.

The Algerian minister also denied that there is now any thinking about, or proposal on, the convening of a summit conference for the states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. He said that such a summit conference would be convened if needed.

Ben Yahia emphasized his country's desire to work toward checking the aggravation of inter-Arab differences. He noted that possibilities exist for limiting these differences by exerting all the efforts needed to create a new atmosphere of inter-Arab relations based on pooling all resources to liberate Palestine--the sole course leading to the repulsion of the enemies.

In answering a question the minister stated that no Algerian-Kuwaiti joint initiative has yet been launched to restore Arab solidarity. He affirmed that his country prefers to work silently to resolve inter-Arab differences.

The Algerian foreign minister arrived in Riyadh from Abu Dhabi last night for a visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as part of a tour of a number of Arab states--a tour which has included Syria, Kuwait and the UAE.

KYODO: 'ARAFAT REVERSES STAND ON VISIT TO JAPAN

OW150154 Tokyo KYODO in English 0144 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut, 14 Dec (KYODO)--Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Sunday accepted an invitation to visit Japan, reversing his earlier stand he would go to Tokyo only at the invitation of the Japanese Government. His acceptance came when he met a suprapartisan delegation of Japanese lawmakers, headed by former Foreign Minister Toshio Kimura, at PLO headquarters here.

Kimura later told reporters that 'Arafat did not specify when he would actually visit Tokyo at the invitation of a pro-Palestine Dietmen's League. He said when 'Arafat visits Tokyo, Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki might hold talks with the Palestinian leader.

During the two and a half hour meeting, 'Arafat said there would be no peace without a solution to the Palestinian (?problem). Kimura said he told 'Arafat that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

'Arafat met with Japanese newsmen at PLO headquarters after his meeting with Kimura and members of his delegation and said he wanted to meet with the Japanese people at an early date. He did not, however, disclose when he will visit Japan, saying only that he will consider the ways and form for making the visit later.

'Arafat expressed the hope that Japan will make efforts to end the suffering of Palestinians in respect to Middle East policies, noting that Japan was a major economic power and that it has influence in the world. He thus sought a positive role from Japan in solving the Middle East problem.

'Arafat also expressed the hope that the Japanese people will exert pressure upon their government so that it will recognize the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and also the right of the Palestinians to form their own independent state.

On the Iran-Iraq war, the PLO leader noted that the two countries are brothers and that the war is a tragedy, not just for the Middle East countries but for the whole world. He said efforts should be made at the initiative of nonaligned countries so that the war will not expand further.

PLO CHAIRMAN 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN GDR 17 DEC

'Official' Visit

NC190912 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in the GDR this afternoon on an official visit. He will hold talks with senior GDR officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue in light of new international conditions.

'Private' Visit

JN190833 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut, 19 Dec (INA)--Citing reliable Palestinian sources, press reports say that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in the GDR the day before yesterday on a private visit. Citing the same sources, the newspaper AS-SAFIR reports that 'Arafat might stay about 2 weeks in Berlin, to complete some checkups. The paper points out that a special plane sent by GDR Council of State Chairman Erich Honecker took 'Arafat from Damascus to Berlin.

KUWAIT

CUBANS REPORTEDLY CAPTURED BY EGYPTIAN TROOPS

LD151222 Kuwait KUNA in English 1139 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Dec (KUNA)--AL-WATAN newspaper reported Monday that Egyptian troops had captured two Cuban military experts when these troops invaded an army camp deep inside the Libyan Sahara. Quoting well-informed sources in Paris, the newspaper said that the two Cuban experts were presently at an Egyptian army barracks and that the Egyptian and Libyan authorities had kept their capture a secret. AL-WATAN, which failed to give the date of the Egyptian attack, said that Egyptian troops carried out their operation after completing a training course on desert warfare supervised by U.S. instructors.

PAPER ASKS ALGERIA TO ABANDON PRESSURE ON UAE

JN191053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Dec (INA)--The Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' has called on Algeria to abandon the mediation it is said to be carrying out to persuade the UAE to postpone until the end of the Iraqi-Iranian war its claims to the three Arab islands occupied by Iran. In a commentary published today, the paper says: We would have understood if, for example, Algeria had told the UAE that it supports its claims to the occupied islands and expressed readiness to back such claims regardless of the reactions or consequences.

The paper adds: However, it is unacceptable for Algeria--or for any state for that matter--to tell another state that it would be in the Arab interest for that state to abstain from declaring its claims to an Arab territory that is occupied by a foreign power, a power whose capital, men and power centers declare their claims to this territory; for Algeria to say to another Arab state that it would be preferable for this state to refrain from demanding Arab rights, in order to avoid expanding the scope of war; and to warn us against aggression and to convey this warning to us.

The paper says: We would have expected the Algerian minister to tell his friends in Iran: The islands are Arab islands and one of the easiest ways of proving good intentions would be to return these islands, since this would prove to us as Arabs that your concepts and goals are different from those of the shah.

The paper adds: We would also have expected the Algerian minister to tell his friends in Tehran to stop declaring that the Arab islands are Persian and to warn these friends about expanding the scope of war, and if they do not do this then Algeria and the Arabs would adopt an anti-Iranian stand, we would have expected the minister to tell them that the threat of expanding the war would mean that every Arab state would enter it and stand in one Arab, and not Persian, front, However, the paper points out, what actually occurred was contrary to such expectations. Indeed, the Algerian minister, who certainly represents his government's policy, is worried that we should demand our Arab right and calls on us to abstain from declaring such demands, in order to safeguard our sovereignty, homeland and fate.

The paper asks: Who would have imagined that an Arab state like Algeria would ask another Arab state to keep silent, lest the scope of war expand? What would Algeria have said if anyone had advised it not to continue its war of liberation against France in 1957, lest this affect the independence of Morocco and Tunisia? What would have happened then if we had advised it not to resist the French occupation, so as not to divert our attention from our battle in Palestine and to avoid provoking France against us, thus forcing it to plot against us along with Britain and the Zionist enemy and to harm Egypt by waging aggression against it and occupying it?

The paper AL-ANBA' concludes: It is high time for all cards to be revealed and for every Arab capital to declare its actual beliefs and goals. It is unacceptable both to ourselves or to others for actual stands to remain concealed. We will not remain silent about this, since he who is silent where right is concerned is a mute devil.

SAUDI ARABIA

OFFICIALS RECEIVE ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

King Khalid

LD181618 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1005 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Dec (SPA)--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at midday today Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, Algeria's foreign minister, who is at present visiting Saudi Arabia. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, and His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister.

Foreign Minister

LD181620 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Dec (SPA)--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, had a meeting this afternoon with Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, and Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, Algeria's foreign minister, who are currently visiting Saudi Arabia.

During the meeting Chedli Klibi reported on the results of a tour which he recently made to a number of Arab countries. A number of current Arab and international issues were discussed during the meeting.

Chedli Klibi left Riyadh this evening for Al-Madinah to pay a visit to the prophet's mosque.

Sa'ud Comment

LD181622 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Dec (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, has announced that Algeria has approved the resolutions of the Arab summit conference which was held in Amman. He stated that this is a result of Algeria's concern for the unity of the solid Arab rank, and this motive is undoubtedly of interest to Saudi Arabia, and that this concern is particularly mutual.

His royal highness referred to bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and Algeria, describing them as excellent. In a statement to SPA on his talks with the Algerian foreign minister his royal highness stated that it was a good opportunity to discuss and exchange views in the shadow of the circumstances prevailing the Arab arena. His royal highness expressed his hope that the efforts of the Arab countries, especially in these difficult circumstances, will succeed and that their efforts will result in the restoration of the Arab rank to its unity and integration.

FOREIGN MINISTER CONFIRMS ISLAMIC SUMMIT DATE

LD181002 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0925 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Dec (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, said the Islamic summit conference will be held in Mecca on the date set.

In a statement to SPA today his royal highness went on to add the conference will be preceded by a meeting of foreign ministers of Islamic countries to draft the necessary arrangements and to prepare the agenda for the conference. The foreign minister pointed out that the preparations and arrangements to convene the conference are underway.

OIL MINISTER OBJECTS TO U.S. BASES IN GULF

GF181645 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani expressed his belief that the Iraqi-Iranian war will end soon.

Shaykh Zaki Yamani, currently on a visit to Australia, objected to the idea of establishing U.S. bases in the Gulf region and said: We are against a U.S. presence in the Gulf because we believe that this would be a justification for a Soviet intervention in the region. He said that the United States has to strengthen its allies in the region so that they will be able to defend themselves.

UAE

OIL MINISTER WARNS OF PRICE HIKE EFFECT

GF181037 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 17 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] Bali--United Arab Emirates Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah warned yesterday that the OPEC decision to increase the price of oil would have a negative effect on producing nations.

He told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that if these countries raised the price by more than $2 a barrel they would not fine buyers in the market.

Dr al-'Utaybah, who left Bali yesterday for Manila on a 3-day official visit to Philippines, said it was too early to say what the new prices for UAE crude would be.

MINISTER OF STATE LEAVES FOR INDIA, BANGLADESH

JN190841 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0815 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Dec (GNA)--Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for an official visit to New Delhi, leading a large delegation to the third session of the UAE-Indian joint committee, which begins on Saturday and which will last 4 days.

'Abdallah will then go to Dacca for a similar visit to Bangladesh, to attend the first session of the UAE-Bangladesh joint committee, which will be held 26-28 December.

The UAE minister of state will hold talks in both countries to improve his country's relations with them in all fields.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR RECEIVES INVITATION TO CPSU CONGRESS

LD181758 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has received an invitation from the CPSU Central Committee to attend the 26th congress of the CPSU. The invitation was extended to him today when he received the Soviet ambassador, Feliz Fedotov.

The meeting also discussed matters relating to the development of relations of cooperation and friendship between the two countries and the part that needs to be implemented in the protocol of cooperation between the YSP and the friendly CPSU.

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

NC181554 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Egypt and Japan have stressed the need to find a just and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East problem that ensures security and stability, as well as the rights of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestinian people. Both sides agreed on the need to solve international problems peacefully and without the use of threats, force or interference in internal affairs.

This was contained in a press statement issued on the visit to Egypt by Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito.

The Japanese foreign minister expressed his country's appreciation of the Egyptian peace initiative, saying that it was an important step toward achieving a just and comprehensive settlement to the [Mideast] problem.

Both sides expressed both satisfaction with their growing political and economic relations and the hope to further develop them.

The press statement said that the Japanese and Egyptian delegations held talks in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding, reflecting agreement on their stand toward international problems. [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1230 GMT on 18 December reported that Egyptian-Japanese official talks opened at noon at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and were led by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Ali and Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito. The report also noted that the talks dealt with "international issues of common interest, Mideast developments, the Iranian-Iraqi war and its effects on the area, and strengthening Egyptian-Japanese cooperation."]

The Japanese foreign minister will leave Cairo tomorrow morning, winding up his 4-day visit to Egypt.

GHALI COMMENTS ON UN PALESTINIAN RESOLUTION

NC171630 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Commenting on the UN General Assembly's resolution on the Palestinian question, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that the resolution was in harmony with Egypt's policy. The resolution, he said, emphasized the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, which is what Egypt is striving for. He added that the resolution is also in line with Egypt's efforts to promote a comprehensive [Mideast] settlement.

Dr Ghali said that Egypt is not monopolizing the work for peace. In fact, he added, Egypt welcomes any efforts at the international level or by international groups. He affirmed that Egypt's only aim is to restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

MENA REPORTS ARRIVAL OF NEW YORK DELEGATION

NC182145 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2133 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 12 Dec (MENA)-- New York Mayor Edward Koch arrived in Cairo this evening leading a delegation on a 1-week visit to Egypt at the invitation of Cairo Governor Sa'd Ma'mun, who received him on his arrival. During his visit, Koch will hold talks with Sa'd Ma'mun on bolstering cooperation between Cairo Governorate and New York State [as received] in the areas of housing, public utilities and services. Koch will also visit Egyptian tourist and archaeological sites and the city of Al-'Arish.

MILITARY COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 183

JN181732 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1707 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Communique No 183 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 18 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continued their activities in their various operations sectors. Following are the results of our armed forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Personnel:

1. Three were killed in the Mehran region.
2. When an enemy patrol approached our advanced units last night in the Dezful sector, fire was opened on the patrol, forcing it to flee leaving behind seven dead.
3. Our advanced units yesterday afternoon clashed with enemy concentrations when they approached east of Jalaliyeh in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] region. The enemy concentrations were forced to flee, leaving behind 21 dead.
4. Six were killed in the Abadan region. This makes the enemy losses in personnel 37 killed.

B. Equipment:

1. Two tanks, one observation post and one excavator were destroyed. One boat was sunk in the Karun River.
2. Our units discovered a quantity of light weapons and equipment in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region left behind by the enemy during previous battles. All are serviceable.
3. Our helicopters raided enemy military targets in the Abadan and Khafajiyeh regions, scoring direct hits. All but two helicopters returned safely to their bases. One went down in front of our advanced positions in the Abadan region and the other crashed in front of the positions of our advanced units in the Khafajiyeh region.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: Eight martyrs in all sectors.

B. Equipment: One tank and one vehicle were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 December 1980.

MAURITANIA REITERATES SUPPORT FOR IRAQI STAND

JN180948 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Nouakchott, 18 Dec (INA)--Mauritania has reiterated its support for Iraq in its war with the Persian enemy on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland. Upon receiving the Iraqi ambassador in Nouakchott last night, Mauritanian Prime Minister Khouna Ould Haydala asserted Mauritania's support for Iraq, which is leading the battle of liberation and honor. Viewpoints were exchanged during the meeting on the expansion of relations between the two fraternal countries.

SADDAM HUSAYN SENDS MESSAGE TO POPE VIA AMBASSADOR

JN181923 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Pope John Paul II today received a message from President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and developments surrounding the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. The president's message was delivered by Anwar Sabri 'Abd ar-Razzaq when he presented his credentials to the pope as nonresident ambassador of Iraq to the Vatican.

During the ceremony, the pope underlined the strong friendly relations between Iraq and the Vatican.

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY OFFICIAL BACK FROM DAMASCUS

JN171732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad--Dr Isma'il Ibrahim Khalas under secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform for animal produce affairs, has returned after heading the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the 10th session of the council of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, which ended its work in Damascus the day before yesterday.

IRAQ, LESOTHO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

JN161633 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Dec (INA)--The Republic of Iraq and the Kingdom of Lesotho have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level.

A Foreign Ministry statement in this regard said: Due to the desire of the governments of the Republic of Iraq and the Kingdom of Lesotho to establish relations of mutual friendship and cooperation, in accordance with international principles of respect for independence and sovereignty, the two countries' governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level.

KING INTERVIEWED BY PARIS-BASED MAGAZINE

JN181840 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] In a 10 December interview with the Paris-based magazine AL-WATAN AL'ARABI, which appeared in today's edition, His Majesty King Husayn reiterated that Jordan comes from and belongs to the Arabs. It is the fate and honor of Jordan, his majesty added, to wage all the Arab nation's battles in defense of its identity and to work for the future of the nation's generations though Jordan has been standing on the longest line of confrontation since the beginning. Jordan is for Palestine, for its owners and for the central issue in this part of the world--the Palestine issue--until the rights are returned to their owners.

His majesty said: The Amman summit conference has been the most successful Arab summit since I have had the honor of representing Jordan in several meetings at this level beginning with the 1956 conference held in Lebanon during the tripartite aggression against Arab Egypt.

The Amman summit is the most successful summit, for it had tackled all matters that should have been tackled. The conference was devoted to Palestine and to supporting the real steadfastness in the occupied territories to confront occupation and the occupation's aggressive practices against the kinfolk and brothers there. Our children, daughters and sons as well as sisters and brothers, are confronting the occupation forces with clubs and stones. They are standing fast despite all the violations of the simplest rights--the human rights of which we hear much in this world.

His majesty added: In another development, the summit's atmosphere was characterized by brotherhood, and the brother leaders managed to hold several meetings and frank and sincere talks, in an atmosphere of confidence, brotherhood and devotion to the nation and to its pan-Arab issues. The outcome was commitment, dedication and devotion to joint Arab action for the sake of the future and for the sake of defending the rights of the Arab generations.

The conference also dealt with a number of issues and problems. Our brothers who did not attend the conference contributed to a large part of the conference's decisions at the summit level during the stages that crystalized these stands. This meeting has promoted our hopes in a future of prosperity for our Arab nation and the Arab man in the Arab homeland.

His Majesty King Husayn pointed out that, despite the specific circumstances that prevented the PLO from participating in the Arab summit and in a meeting for the sake of Palestine, they were with us in spirit. We all were keen to perform our duty and to do all we could to materialize their wishes, aspirations and objectives.

As for Lebanon, we were deeply pained that it did not attend this meeting at a time when it has a cause. We all feel that Lebanon's cause should have been tackled earlier. Also, it seems that certain signs and circumstances had prevented Lebanon's participation in this meeting. Nevertheless, Lebanon was in the heart of all those who attended the meeting and who worked for achieving results that constitute a serious starting point along the road of scoring further prosperity for the Arab nation, God willing.

Asked whether a final date has been set for his meeting with U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan and whether he will speak in the name of a group of Arab officials, his majesty said: All that has occurred is that President-elect Ronald Reagan made a statement in which he expressed the desire to meet with me soon after becoming U.S. president. Naturally, I welcomed this. No date, however, has been set for this meeting and we did not enter into any political talks or talks of any kind with the new U.S. administration.

If I leave for the United States, I will talk about my country and bilateral relations and I will defend, as always, my nation's stands, causes and rights as best I can.

His majesty hoped that the new U.S. administration will not remain captive to policies and stands which were formulated in the past and which led to no good in this part of the world and perhaps in other parts too and said that the new U.S. administration must give itself the opportunity to reassess these policies and stands before adopting new stands and following new policies.

His majesty stressed that the Amman summit was held within the framework of the Arab league and in implementation of the Tunis summit resolutions. The Amman summit was different from the Baghdad summit, which was held at the invitation of fraternal Iraq to the Arab leaders to meet and confront the crisis and trials resulting from the Camp David agreements. Later, the meetings and resolutions as well as setting the date and venue became the Arab League's responsibility and that is why we could not change the date and venue of the Amman summit. We were happy and satisfied that a meeting was to be held near the confrontation line with Israel and near the Zionist danger facing the Arab nation.

Asked whether the Amman summit had adopted any secret resolutions, his majesty said: The summit had no secret resolutions. Everything, however, has not been mentioned in detail. There were studies, agreement in thought and viewpoints on several issues. A review of all problems, in the area and in the world, was also made.

On the Islamic summit conference, his majesty said: I am honored to represent my country at the Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia, Mecca and the holy land.

On the Camp David operation, his majesty said that it has ended without achieving any success. It only removed Egypt from the Arab fold, and this pains us greatly.

The present U.S. administration admits that it has given Israel more than all the previous administrations had collectively given since the establishment of the Israeli state and at a time when Israel has refused to recognize a single Arab right in the occupied Arab territories. These rights involve first and foremost the Palestinian people; the essence of the problem which lies in Arab Jerusalem, the occupied West Bank and Gaza; and the rights of Palestinians in Palestinian land.

His majesty added: As far as I am concerned, the Camp David process ended without offering anything for the sake of achieving a just and lasting peace in this part of the world. Therefore, the continued attempts to revive Camp David would absolutely not achieve positive results.

Asked if he is able to visualize some kind of solution to the Middle East crisis, his majesty said: There is no specific visualization except my stand which has been firm and clear from the beginning, namely that the sons of Palestine must enjoy their rights in drafting a just and lasting peace in this area represented by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian people must be able to practice their full rights on their national soil and must choose their own path in an atmosphere of freedom after the elimination of occupation. These are the only bases on which peace can be built in this part of the world.

On the so-called Jordanian solution, his majesty asserted that such a solution does not exist. On the other hand, Jordan is extremely keen to fulfill its role and duty in supporting the PLO and the kinfolk and brothers of the sons of Palestine to attain their full rights on the Palestinian soil in Arab Jerusalem and in every part of the occupied land.

As for the Palestinian rights, his majesty said that, since the Rabat summit, Jordan has not only recognized the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, but also has been implementing this stand. We believe that the Palestinians must constitute the basic and primary factor in any solution to the Palestinian problem. We will assist them and cooperate with them, but we will never replace them. This is our duty.

On the extent of cooperation between Jordan and Iraq, his majesty said: This cooperation will continue and will deepen. This is in fact taking place every day. The principles of the cooperation exist in the conscience of every Arab man as well as in his feelings of duty and his commitment to the mission of the fathers, forefathers and martyrs in the Arab homeland. The Jordanian-Iraqi accord is characterized by honesty, purity, loyalty and brotherhood.

OFFICIALS RECEIVE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

JN181254 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah received at his office today the U.S. congressional delegation which is currently visiting Jordan.

In a statement to the JNA correspondent, the information minister said that he discussed with the members of the delegation the principles from which the Arabs proceed to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement for the Middle East crisis, adding that the Palestinian issue represents the core of the dispute.

The information minister explained the interrelationship of the Palestinian issue with the various regional issues, which are associated with international interests in the Middle East region. The information minister particularly stressed that international interests are linked with the region's issues and stressed the need to balance these interests with the region's issues in the interest of everyone and international peace and security.

The delegation includes Senators Carl Levin and David Boren and Congressman Michael Synar.

The U.S. ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Staff Lt Gen Ash-Sharif Zayid ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, also received the U.S. congressional delegation.

PLO'S AL-HASAN ARRIVES FOR TALKS ON RELATIONS

JN182018 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Hani al-Hasan, PLO Executive Committee member, arrived in Amman today on a visit of several days to Jordan. The Palestinian official will participate in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in charge of the occupied land affairs.

It was learned from a Palestinian source in Amman that Hani al-Hasan will hold talks with Jordanian officials on boosting Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM VISIT TO LIBYA, ALGERIA

JN182145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus at 2200 today at the end of a 24-hour visit to Algeria that followed the Benghazi talks on the basic principles of unity between the two fraternal countries of Syria and Libya. Returning with the president were the members of the delegation who accompanied him to Algeria and participated in the Benghazi talks.

President Hafiz al-Asad had left the Algiers airport at 1830 today. He was seen off at the airport by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, several top National Liberation Front and government officials and the Syrian ambassador in Algiers.

President Hafiz al-Asad and Chadli Bendjedid met at the People's Palace at 1000 Algiers time. During the meeting, which lasted until 1330, the two presidents held consultations on the situation in the Arab East and Maghreb as well as on the latest developments there. The talks also dealt with the means to support Arab steadfastness in confronting the enemy schemes against the nation and in confronting the attempts to liquidate the central issue, the Palestine issue. The two presidents also reviewed bilateral relations and the means to boost these relations.

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid hosted a luncheon in honor of President Hafiz al-Asad. The Syrian delegation and top Algerian officials attended the luncheon.

COMMENTARY VIEWS RESULTS OF UNITY MEETING

JN181352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Unity work has taken a new dimension following the Benghazi meeting between Presidents al-Asad and al-Qadhdhafi and in the wake of the discussion of the method and bases for the establishment of the unity and the formation of a revolutionary leadership which will lead the unitary work and the formation of a four-member committee which will draft the framework of the unity state between the two fraternal countries. This new dimension comes to effect the Tripoli declaration, which was issued on 10 September 1980. This declaration has filled the Arab masses with the hope that unity is the reality of the nation, the sharpest weapon against the imperialist challenges and the suspicious attempts, particularly by the regime of the traitor As-Sadat.

The trend of steadfastness against imperialist plots expresses the will of the Arab masses to achieve their independence and freedom. This trend is the most important tributary feeding unity work in the Arab arena in the east and the west. The trend speaks of the will of our people in Syria and Libya and in all the positions of Arab steadfastness. This trend has been behind the movement of President Hafiz al-Asad, our leadership and people toward the unity work, which provides our Arab nation with the capabilities to strengthen its force and to struggle for the achievement of its just goals in liberating the land, securing the Palestinian people's national rights and establishing the unity state, which will be able to resolve the conflict in the region in the interest of the Arab nation and its future.

With this broad view of the Benghazi meeting and the current working visit to Algeria of President al-Asad, Syria proves again that its belief in unity has been and still is motivating it to achieve this goal, which puts in the hands of the Arab nation the sharpest weapon to confront and foil the imperialist schemes and to establish its unified socialist society.

PDRY ENVOY MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS FOR BEIRUT

JN171336 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--Abu Bakr Badhib, Yemeni Socialist Party Political Bureau member, left Damascus for Beirut at noon today.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Abu Bakr Badhib said: A message was conveyed to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad from PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The message is related to ways of bolstering relations between the two fraternal states and reflects the solidarity of the Arab people in the PDRY with the heroic struggle being waged by the Syrian people under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

Badhib added: During my stay in Syria, I held several meetings with officials in the party and state leadership which centered on the latest developments in the region and ways to bolster the fraternal ties linking Syria, the PDRY and the rest of the steadfastness and confrontation states in order to firmly confront the escalating imperialist onslaught whose purpose, among others, is to subjugate steadfast Syria prior to liquidating the issue of the Palestinian people.

Badhib concluded: During the visit, it was also decided to hold more contacts and consultations between the officials in the two fraternal states in order to discuss issues concerning joint cooperation.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES YEMENI FRONT DELEGATION

JN181728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--At noon today Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received the YAR Democratic National Front delegation led by Comrade Yahya ash-Shami.

The two sides reviewed the circumstances surrounding the front's action in the Yemeni arena and relations between the front and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. They also discussed the situation in the Arab arena, which is the scene of an imperialist-reactionary-Zionist onslaught seeking to impose hegemony over the area, place it under its influence and peddle the treacherous Camp David accords.

The two sides also reviewed the struggle waged by the Yemeni Arab masses in particular and the Arab masses in general against the reactionary conspiracies directed against the Arab masses' national democratic struggle. They also reviewed the methods used by the front to develop Yemeni society and create national sympathy to confront the provocations against the Arab people's aspirations. During the meeting, emphasis was placed on the need for cohesion among Arab progressive and nationalist forces to confront the conspiracies of imperialism and Zionism and their agents in the area.

The front delegation expressed appreciation for the prominent role Arab Syria is playing under Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, in confronting imperialist-Zionist conspiracies against the Arab masses and their progressive nationalist forces and the attempts to liquidate the Palestinian Arab cause. The front also expressed appreciation for Syria's role at the Arab and international levels to abort all conspiracies.

Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar reiterated the Ba'th Party's support for the struggle waged by the front to achieve its progressive nationalist objectives of developing Yemen, fulfilling the Yemeni people's aspirations and confronting the imperialist-reactionary conspiracies facing the Arab people in Yemen and the struggle of the Arab nation throughout the Arab homeland.

JORDAN'S AGRICULTURE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR MEETING

JN122226 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Agriculture Minister Marwan Dudin arrived in Damascus this evening to take part in the meetings of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development which will open its 10th session in Damascus tomorrow.

ALGERIA

SYRIAN PRESIDENT DEPARTS FROM ALGIERS 18 DEC

LD182040 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a 1-day visit to Algeria. He was seen off at the Boumediene International Airport by President of the Republic and Secretary General of the party Chedli Bendjedid and senior government and party officials.

LIBYA

CHAD PRESIDENT GOUKOUNI SAYS FIGHTING HAS STOPPED

LD182114 Tripoli JANA in English 1629 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Paris, 18 Dec (JANA)--President Goukouni Oueddei, head of the National Unity Government in Chad confirmed that all fight has stopped throughout Chad. In a letter addressed to the chairman of the OAU committee on Chad, urged him to continue aid to his country in the next stage of rebuilding Chad. [as received]

JANA: HUMANITARIAN AID TO CHAD TO CONTINUE

LD190836 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Dec (JANA)--The humanitarian aid which the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah have been rendering to the Chadian people to alleviate the suffering which they are enduring and to dress their wounds caused by war and destruction is continuing. Rendering such humanitarian aid is an expression of our people's solidarity with the Chadian people and within the framework which our people have undertaken toward all humanitarian causes and toward all peoples who are seeking freedom, progress and peace.

ARMY CHIEF RECEIVES SDAR DEFENSE MINISTER

LD182138 Tripoli JANA in English 1627 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Dec (JANA)--Brigadier Abu-Bakr Yunis Jabir, general commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces received this morning Ibrahim Ghali, minister of defense in the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. The meeting dealt with the latest military and political developments in the region.

MOROCCO

JERUSALEM COMMITTEE POSTPONES MEETING TO 22 DEC

LD181450 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Rabat, 18 Dec (MAP)--It has been learned from Moroccan sources that the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee, set for Thursday and Friday, has been postponed until Monday, 22 December 1980. The sources have not explained the reason for postponing this meeting.

SHIM'ON PERES ELECTED LABOR PARTY CHAIRMAN

TA181339 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1320 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Results of the Shim'on Peres-Yitzhaq Rabin contest for Labor Party leadership announced by Labor Party member Becker, head of the party's election committee]

[Text] The presidium of the party, its members and chairman, convention delegates, with your permission I will briefly report the proceeding of the vote and its results:

The number of convention delegates enjoying a voting right was 3,062. Actually participating in the vote were 3,026, or 98.882 percent. There were 9 overruled votes and the number of countable votes totaled 3,019 [as heard]. Of this number, 2,123 voted for Shim'on Peres for chairman of the party, who is also the party's candidate for the premiership. This amounts to 70.32 percent. In favor of Yitzhaq Rabin were 875 votes, or 28.88 percent. Abstaining from the vote were 21.

Dear delegates, upon furnishing you with the election results, I will fulfill a pleasant duty in the name of all members of the election committee and congratulate Shim'on Peres for having been elected the party's candidate for the premiership in the coming Knesset election. [applause]

Rabin Reaction

TA181418 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpt] After the Labor Party's election results were released, Yitzhaq Rabin announced he accepts and honors the convention's decision. He noted that the Labor Party will emerge from the convention united and intact to face the struggles facing it on the national arena in the Histadrut and Knesset election. Yitzhaq Rabin ended his short speech with an expression of gratitude to those who had voted confidence in him.

Peres Remarks

TA181623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Shim'on Peres said that the Labor Party will set up a sort of a leading team and that if the Knesset election is advanced, this team will be set up soon. Asked whether Yitzhaq Rabin will be included in such a team Shim'on Peres answered he does not rule out anybody but that he is not including anybody in such a team now either. He also refused to mention names. He explained that the team will be made up of experienced as well as young and talented people who will be able to form the leading ranks of the party and the people. The Labor Party's chairman made these remarks in a meeting with journalists after having been elected the party's candidate for premier.

He told journalists that if the Alignment forms a government, they will strengthen relations with the Egyptian Government and people and will later make every effort to start negotiations with Jordan. He noted that an Alignment government will be prepared to conduct peace negotiations with the Palestinians' representatives even if Jordan does not join the peace talks.

Further Report

TA181715 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1650 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpts] A short while after his election the Labor Party's chairman appeared in a multiparticipant news conference of Israeli and foreign journalists held in Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv. The foreign journalists bombarded Shim'on Peres with many questions regarding his political road if he heads an Alignment government after the Knesset election.

On an early election in Israel Mr Peres said that he made two mistakes already in his predictions on this issue but that he still believes there will be early election. The Alignment's election campaign has already opened.

In this context he expressed the hope that 'Ezer Weizman will consider his steps before establishing a new party since the Israeli voter has already learned the lesson of the Democratic Movement for Change which was made up of many starts and a narrow basis. "The Israelis are convinced that a majority should be given to one party since the factional split spelled disaster for the economy," he said.

To the foreign journalists Peres repeated the main points of an Alignment government's foreign policy, just as he outlined them in his speeches in the Labor Party's convention. He stressed his wish to tell President as-Sadat that an Alignment government will be faithful to implementing the Camp David accords signed by the Likud government. This government will also drive toward peace in the Middle East, strengthen the relations with Egypt and offer Jordan the opportunity to join the negotiations. The diplomatic efforts will focus on the region itself, in view of the increased Soviet involvement and the danger of the Iraqi nuclear option. Even if Jordan refuses to join the negotiations, talks will be held with the Palestinians in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza with the aim to apply the autonomy in Gaza first.

Asked about the Golan draft resolution, Peres said that the Alignment will not support it since the Alignment favors a territorial compromise. The Alignment nevertheless believes that the Golan Heights is part of Israel's defense system. "We shall not support decisions that run counter to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338," he said. The Alignment government will also change the settlement policy and will not set up settlements in areas densely populated with Arabs.

He also expressed the hope that an Alignment government will find a common language with the Reagan administration.

EGYPT'S KHALIL ADDRESSES LABOR CONVENTION

TA190842 Jerusalem POST in English 19 Dec 80 pp 1, 2

[By diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] Tel Aviv--Egypt's former Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, who now serves as deputy chairman of the ruling National Democratic Party, warned Israel's Labor Party here last night that a "Jordanian option" could be implemented only after the principles of the Camp David autonomy have been agreed upon.

In a hard-hitting policy statement to Labor's national convention, Khalil declared: "We have no objection to inviting others to join the peace process, but we ask: How are those others to be invited? That is a very big question."

Khalil contended that those "others" (meaning Jordan and/or the Palestinians) would be likely to join the process only if Israel and Egypt agreed between themselves on principles for the Palestinian solution.

The rationale behind the "continuing committee" had been to circumvent the UN's non-acceptance of Camp David, Khalil noted. By the same token, there could be no trusteeship.

Khalil warned the Labor delegates that Israel could not hope "to play a role in the region, to work with its neighbours for the security of the region" unless and until the Israel-Egypt peace had been developed into a "comprehensive settlement."

Egypt itself, Khalil added sombrely, "cannot play a separate role with Israel in that respect"--in the absence of a comprehensive settlement to the Israel-Arab conflict.

He reiterated Egypt's long-standing demand that Israel produce "confidence-building measures" in the administered territories. This is Egyptian metaphor for a liberalizing of the West Bank-Gaza occupation.

"How can people living under military rule, denied their human rights, be expected to join in the peace process" Khalil asked. He said he addressed this question particularly to Israelis as "the people of the book."

He urged "an end to the military rule" and said that "I know many Israelis and true Jewish people never believed in military rule."

He called for the elections of a "self-governing authority as prescribed in Camp David and said that the key-phrase "full autonomy" which has been the focus of such negotiation is "well-defined in international law."

Camp David, Khalil noted, "specifically mentions Jordan as having a role--indeed the Jordanians were invited to take part in the talks... so the Camp David agreements do not exclude either the Jordanians or the Palestinians."

Earlier in the day, in a press conference devoted to foreign policy issues, Labor leader Shim'on Peres sought to reformulate Labor's Jordanian option so as to take account of Egyptian sensibilities. Both Peres and Khalil were plainly continuing in public here the lengthy dialogue which the two party leaderships began last month in a weekend symposium in Cairo.

"Deeply congratulating" Peres on his election as candidate for prime minister, Khalil told applauding Labor delegates: "You have a leadership with qualities of statesmanship of which you may well be proud."

Addressing himself to another variation of Labor's Jordan option concept, the joint Israel-Jordan "trusteeship" advocated by Yitzhaq Rabin as an interim solution, Khalil noted that Camp David itself provides for a "continuing committee" to resolve disputes between the parties. That committee, he said, is to comprise Israel, Egypt, the United States, the Palestinians and Jordan.

He dwelt at length on what he said was the transience of the security measures agreed to by Egypt in the peace treaty. These (he was apparently referring to demilitarization and arms limitations in the Sinai) were "not everlasting--not eternal... not static... but will be reviewed from time to time." He said it had taken 4 months of arduous negotiations to get this point agreed to--at Egypt's insistence.

Khalil said Egyptian policy was founded on moral principles and in this respect it paralleled great episodes in Jewish history. He cited in particular the revolt of "Mattathias, the head of the Hasmoneans and the Maccabees," and the revolt against the Romans led by Bar-Kochba. In each case, he said, the Jews could have bowed to superior power, but they chose to stand up and fight against oppression.

GHALI, KHALIL DISCUSS LABOR PARTY CONVENTION

TA181301 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpts] This is the big day for Israel's Labor Party, as the 3,000-plus delegates to the convention choose between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin as party leader and candidate for prime minister. All this is taking place at Tel Aviv's Mann auditorium in the presence of guests from abroad.

Among the delegates from abroad here today are several Egyptians, and on the convention floor reporter Dan Hackel asked them for their reactions so far. First, Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs:

[Begin recording] As a party member, I was very much interested by the two speeches [by Peres and Rabin], but the free discussion, and I believe it will be very useful to have a cooperation between our two parties, and that through this cooperation among parties this will reinforce transnational relations between the two countries and the two peoples.

[Question] What did you think of the references to the Camp David agreement that were made?

[Ghali] It deserves attention and it was a subject of discussion when we met with the representatives of the Labor Party in Cairo.

[Hackel] Mustafa Khalil, former prime minister of Egypt:

[Khalil] Well, it's a very new experience to me, of course, and it's a very memorial day because for the first time an Egyptian delegation representing an Egyptian political party attends the meeting of one of the political parties in Israel. And this is the first time, you know, it's like the initiative which was started in Jerusalem 3 years ago; and by this we hope that more communication will be established between political parties in Egypt and political parties in Israel--not only the Labor Party but other parties there may be in time. I feel that by creating understanding, but creating common feelings and understanding between our two countries, much better relations can be hoped for in the future. [end recording]

IDF DESTROYS TARGETS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA190558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] IDF forces destroyed terrorist targets in the area of Al-Mahmudiyah, northwest of the Litani River, last night. Four IDF soldiers were wounded. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports from the north:

[Begin recording] [Tal] The chief of staff's debriefing of the force participating in the operation ended a short while ago. Each of the commanders gave details of the events and commented on the raid's execution. The targets were located on the axis of the villages of Al-'Ayshiyah and Al-Jurmaq north of the Litani, on the western slopes of the Al-'Urqub mountain chain, and serve as a shelter and a base for the terrorists. The targets were located at a place which the terrorists had turned into a permanent residence. They built bunkers, dug positions and connecting trenches and set up tents. The IDF force surprised the terrorists and opened fire on the targets. Casualties were sustained when the terrorists returned fire from one of the terrorist positions. One of the commanders told about the operation:

[Unidentified voice] The mission posed many problems. In one place we had to move over very rugged terrain. We did not wait at all. We had to assault the target immediately because of an encounter with the terrorists. There were three armed terrorists who guarded the target at a distance of about a 100 meters from it. They encountered our advance force and as a result we entered the target and began firing. We came across a tent in which the terrorists were apparently asleep. It contained equipment and ammunition. Two terrorists were surely killed in the tent. Two terrorists were certainly also killed in a bunker next to it. There may have been more terrorists inside who were killed but we could not tell. There was an empty, small shack containing a kitchen which we blew up. There was a mortar position and a trench defended by a terrorist armed with a Kalashmikov whom we also killed. This is all.

[Tal] The chief of staff's debriefing ended a short while ago. At about 0400 today several Katyushas were fired from Lebanese territory toward the Galilee panhandle. [end recording]

LINOWITZ UNABLE TO PERSUADE EGYPT ON TALKS

TA191119 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Dec 80 p 1

[Excerpt] Efforts that special U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks Sol Linowitz made in recent days to renew the practical negotiations between Israel and Egypt proved unsuccessful. During his visits to Egypt and Israel, Mr Linowitz tried, along with the farewell meetings he held, to set a timetable for the resumption of the negotiations. The aim of this effort was to fix a meeting between Israeli and Egyptian representatives even before Ronald Reagan enters the White House.

The assumption was that the fixing of a timetable for the autonomy talks would lend credibility to the public declaration issued yesterday which, among other things, points to the achievements of the negotiations and the continuing validity of the Camp David process. The injection of practical momentum into the autonomy negotiations was also intended to imbue them with a living and active character, this with an eye to the completion of the report summing up the talks which Linowitz will submit to the new U.S. administration.

WASHINGTON EMBASSY TO CHECK ON HOOVER PAPER

TA181543 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Dec 80 p 2

[Text] A report originating in Washington, according to which Reagan's administration may adopt a recommendation to force Israel to consent to the es ıblishment of a Palestinian state, was received in Jerusalem without much turbulence or credulity. Nevertheless, the Foreign Ministry instructed the Israeli Embassy in Washington to check this information.

The recommendation is included in a paper entitled "America in the Eighties," composed at the Hoover Institution, which is close to the Republican Party. In the institution itself this paper, consisting of an anthology of articles, was termed "Reagan's bible," according to the report from Washington. A high-level Jerusalem source said yesterday, however, that in the past President Carter used to be closely associated with the Brookings paper of the Brookings Institute but this paper has not influenced the U.S. policy in the region.

It has been further noted that there may be people of diverse opinions in the Hoover Institution; some may advocate the idea of a Palestinian state and others may object to it. Israel has supporters among the institute's top officials and one paper published on behalf of the institution is no reason to get excited, it has been asserted.

CAPE VERDE

GOVERNMENT DECREE DETAILS CABINET CHANGES

AB182109 Paris AFP in French 1448 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Praia, 18 Dec (AFP)--The Colonels Silvino da Luz, Honorio Chantre and Julio de Carvalho have been nominated minister of foreign affairs, minister of national defense and minister of interior respectively by a decree signed by Mr Aristides Pereira, the president of the Republic of Cape Verde and published in a special issue of this country's national gazette on Thursday.

Mr Silvino was formerly the minister of the armed forces, defense and national security, a post which no longer exists under this name. The state Secretariat for Internal Administration, Public Service and Labor has also been eliminated. The former head of this secretariat was Mr Jose Luiz Fernandes.

It is indicated by informed sources in Praia that Mr Abilio Duarte, who was at the same time minister of foreign affairs and president of the National Assembly, can no longer hold the two posts by virtue of an article of the recently adopted new constitution of Cape Verde.

With the exception of the Public Service and Labor Administration, which depends directly on the prime minister, the National Administration for Security and Public Order as well as the services and bodies which are contained within the state Secretariat for Internal Administration, Public Services and Labor have been placed under the Ministry of Interior.

The three personalities who have been nominated ministers of foreign affairs, defense and interior are three veterans of the independence war of Guinea-Bissau. They belong to the high circles of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC).

Colonel da Luz, who has been minister of the armed forces since the independence of Cape Verde on 5 July 1975, recently presided over the National Commission of the PAIGC which prepared the recent legislative elections.

First Commander Honorio Chantre was the deputy to the chief of the general staff in Guinea-Bissau, a country which he left a few months ago to join the armed forces of Cape Verde, his country.

Also a Cape Verdian, First Commander de Carvelho was the political commissioner of the armed forces and the deputy to the chief of staff in Guinea-Bissau at the time the coup of 4 November last took place in that country. At that time, he was in Cape Verde attending a joint military meeting of the two countries.

GHANA

PARLIAMENT APPROVES SEVEN MINISTERIAL NOMINEES

AB190817 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Parliament today approved the nomination of seven of the 13 nominees for appointments as ministers of state, deputy ministers and deputy regional ministers. This followed the acceptance of the report of the Appointments Committee which vetoed the nominees.

Those who have had their nominations confirmed are Mr Thomas Abila, minister of culture and sports; Mr Kwasi Prempeh, deputy minister of culture and sports; Mr Eric Awuletey-Adjei, deputy minister of information and tourism and Mr George Barry Garbrah, deputy minister of defense. The others are Mr Abdulai Niamah, deputy minister of youth and rural development; Mr David Osei-Wusu, deputy central regional minister and Mr Maxwell Kofi Awuku, deputy eastern regional minister.

The chairman of the Appointment Committee, Mr Mahami, told the house that the committee is still considering the nominations of two deputy ministers designate. They are Mr (Botswal Alhassan Kante) for fuel and power and Mr David Komla, deputy minister of lands and natural resources. The committee has also not completed work on Mr E.Y. Boateng, deputy minister designate for the Ashanti region. According to Mr Mahami, while the committee was deliberating on three other nominees for deputy ministers the president withdrew their nominations. They are Mr Ahai-Nettey for local government and cooperatives, Mr Osei-Antwi for works and housing and Mr Simon Wemegah for youth and rural development.

NIGER

KOUNTCHE ADDRESS CONDEMNS 'NEIGHBOR'S' SUBVERSION

AB191105 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Address to the nation by Niger President Seyni Kountche on the eve of the anniversary of the proclamation of the republic--live]

[Excerpts] Nigerois and dear compatriots, the celebration of the 22d anniversary of our republic comes at a time when the general situation gives us cause both for satisfaction and for anxiety. Concerning the first, I will certainly cite the generally successful results of the agricultural campaign which has just ended. Unlike most brother Sahelian countries, which experienced late and irregular rains, our crops benefited from regular rain and in most of our desert areas, the meadows enjoyed rainfall conditions that were quite satisfactory. Despite the early cessation of the rain, most of our brave farmers have been able to reap the fruits of their tireless efforts. At the same time, the situation in the pasturelands was generally satisfactory, thus enabling our stockbreeders to feed their flocks without too much difficulty.

We can therefore say that as far as this very vital sector is concerned, we are experiencing some relief and relative security. However, this should not induce us to relax our efforts because the surplus we have achieved is still fragile, although it has enabled us to make up our reserve food stocks. This is because of the general phenomenon of drought.

First of all, we must preserve the fruits of this agricultural campaign. As I stressed during the inspection tour I made in order to evaluate the harvest and as reaffirmed by members of the government during their mission in the various districts, the struggle against waste and for the protection of our meadows must be waged by all Nigerois at all times. This struggle must be heightened, as far as the battle to be waged against bush fires--which constitute the most deadly plague--is concerned. It is the most appropriate action to fight against desert encroachment in our country.

Moreover, we must now plan for necessary measures for the next sowing season. On this issue, the modernization of the means of production still remains a priority factor. It is a condition for the preservation and reinforcement of food self-sufficiency, which is always precarious not only because of climatic conditions but also because of the growth of our population and the excessive exploitation of [words indistinct].

Fellow Nigerois, our 1979-1980 agricultural campaign is ending on a generally satisfying note. The months which have just ended have also witnessed important progress in the preparation of the nation's future. The National Commission for the Establishment of the Development Society has, in fact, fully entered its operational phase, having already defined its methods and approved its organization. The Samaria movement [voluntary work organization] now has a coordinating organ that will enable it to continue its task, assert its personality and assume its eminent role in the construction and promotion of the basic organs of the development society. On this occasion, we must salute the generous efforts of all the local and national authorities and their determination to ensure the success of our efforts to organize the Niger of tomorrow.

For more than 1 year now, Niger has been preoccupied by the [word indistinct] ups and downs which have characterized the international economic and political situation. Forecasts, which had been considered pessimistic, have unfortunately materialized. In the economic field, the fall in the price of uranium and the resultant consequences will greatly affect our revenues. However, I can assure you that the annual investment targets provided for by our 5-year development plan will be respected and achieved. Niger's credibility on the international scene is still intact. Our partners know our management methods and the potentials of our soil. We can therefore rely on these assets to traverse without too much harm the difficult period we dread [words indistinct]. Economically, there is no question of slowing down the investments already begun or the activities which produced the impetus being witnessed by the country for the past 6 years. Our economic partners should therefore rest assured that there will not be any breakdown, even though the situation imposes more discipline in work and more vigilance in management on us.

On the political scene, the confrontation between the superpowers through their satellites is assuming very disquieting proportions. As a result of this, a thirst for domination has appeared among the group of nonaligned states. This greatly endangers the sacred principle of mutual respect and solidarity between states and hampers their capacity to play their appropriate role in the establishment of a new international economic order. There is no doubt that our movement is gradually losing its moral authority.

Furthermore, while we are celebrating with fervor the 15th centenary of the Hegira, the bearer of a glowing hope of a glorious future for the Islamic community [words indistinct], we are confronted by painful internal problems. The political crises are both the expression and cause of the very serious deterioration of the economic situation. The very unstable prices of raw materials and the [word indistinct] of world currencies make it more difficult to successfully undertake collective actions at the international, regional and even national levels. To face all these convergent threats, Niger obviously relies on close cooperation at the regional level as well as at the level of the OAU.

In this connection, I am happy about the strengthening and quality of the relations between our country and all the states of our subregion. The summit meeting of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] and the creation of the Niger River Authority are clear demonstrations of our common determination to undertake actions which, apart from the economic and financial objectives, will directly lead to a system of collective security that will make West Africa a zone of peace within which joint efforts aimed at integrated and harmonized development will be pursued. But however important this cooperation may be, it cannot be fruitful unless it is carried out by well-structured nations. I can even say that in the present situation in the world, intransigent nationalism has become a necessity which will enable a state to face present challenges and stand as a worthy partner at the external level.

The construction of Niger demands from each and everyone of us a keen awareness of our national identity. Our first preoccupation must be to constantly strengthen national consciousness, the constant affirmation of which I have had the occasion to salute. (?The future of our country) must be characterized by an intransigent nationalism based on the firm conviction that we alone can rightly appreciate our problems, look for their solutions and make the necessary sacrifices to achieve them. [passage indistinct] If there are fields in which we could sometimes compromise, we cannot, on the other hand, abandon a single inch of our territory; this is because of the sacred principle of territorial integrity and national sovereignty. Because of the security and superior interests of the people of Niger, we will not allow anyone to interfere in our country's internal affairs be he our best brother and friend.

Dear fellow countrymen, I know that a few weeks ago you learned through the press, radio and television about the conflict between us and one of our neighbors. The dispute had been latent. We were compelled to denounce it publicly because our patience was exhausted.

In exchange for our sincere offers of cooperation and friendship to the authorities of that country, we received in March 1976 weapons hidden in bags of wheat sent us in the guise of humanitarian aid. There is no need for me to tell you the intention of the sender of those parcels: the blood of Niger citizens must flow. In fact, the new Niger authorities were not forgiven for having rejected the secret agreement that had been hastily signed during an official visit—agreements which clearly subjected our country to a foreign power. Niger was called upon to serve as a base for a conquest of West Africa. Since then, this power has had designs on the stability and tranquility of our country, which it wants to destroy at all costs. What Nigerois would agree to be subjected to a new colonization after we experienced colonization for 60 years? One can take us for a very naive people, but one can never reproach us for lack of nationalism and the determination to defend our sovereignty and our country's supreme interests. Since the failure of this attempt [words indistinct], our country has been subjected to all sorts of pressures and threats. The noisy cooperation established between us and that neighbor really covered diabolic threats [words indistinct] which are extremely dangerous for our unity. How else can the secret campaigns being carried out with the help of bank notes and aimed at stirring up the peoples of our region against one another be explained? [passage indistinct] (?The army) saved Niger many times in the past, and it will continue to save it.

The Supreme Military Council and the government did not make a lot of noise in relying to these numerous attempts to divide our country because they are in perfect control of the situation. The authorities' vigilance at all levels has been exemplarily effective. Besides, I would like to pay a public and deserved tribute to all those men and women for their devotion and loyalty to the fatherland.

In this cruel trial imposed on us by our neighbor, I call on all the administrative authorities and state agents, wherever they may be in our vast national territory, to close their ranks in total communion with the populations under their charge in order to prove that our people can mobilize themselves for development as well as for the defense of their country [words indistinct]. It is therefore very necessary that there be a general mobilization. This mobilization must be voluntary and permanent and attract the participation of all.

NIGERIA

MUGABE, LEADERS MEET, SIGN COOPERATION ACCORD

Talks With Ekwueme

AB171806 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Talks have been held in Lagos between Nigeria and Zimbabwe. The Nigerian side was led by the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme while the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, was at the head of his country's delegation.

President Shehu Shagari said at the opening that Nigeria would prefer to assist Zimbabwe in the areas of manpower development, agriculture, forests, mining and (?sundry). The president gave the assurance that his administration would continue to support Zimbabwe in order to insure peace and stability in that country.

Replying, Mr Mugabe restated the various roles played by Nigeria during his country's struggle for freedom. He said that his visit was to foster friendship and brotherhood between Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

It has just been reported that a technical cooperation agreement has been signed by the two countries as a result of the Lagos talks.

This morning, the Zimbabwean leader, Mr Robert Mugabe, visited places of interest in the federal capital. He undertook a tour of the Tinkan Island port complex and laid a wreath at the cenotaph at Tafalewa Balewa Square in Lagos.

Mugabe, Ekwueme Remarks

LD181452 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Dec 80 CA

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has thanked Nigeria for its profound support during the hard and arduous struggle for social justice and independence in Zimbabwe. Comrade Mugabe made these remarks after signing a general cooperation agreement in Lagos yesterday with President Shagari. The prime minister said his visit to Nigeria reflected the close bond of friendship that exists between Zimbabwe and Nigeria. He said the cooperation agreement will help Zimbabwe tremendously and called for the speedy implementation of the accord. Speaking earlier, President Shagari pledged his country's support for Zimbabwe to ensure a sound economic freedom in this country. He said Nigeria would provide whatever aid possible to help Zimbabwe achieve peaceful and stable development. President Shagari also praised the prime minister for the manner in which he has conducted the affairs of government since the attainment of independence in Zimbabwe.

Meanwhile, the ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation] correspondent covering the prime minister's visit to Nigeria says the minister of finance, Comrade Nkala, will not travel to France to sign a financial agreement. Our correspondent says Comrade Nkala will now be in Lagos to assist the prime minister in working out details of the agreement that has been signed with the Nigerian Government.

At a banquet held in honor of Comrade Mugabe, the Nigerian vice president, Comrade Ekwueme, pledged his country's support and commitment to the total liberation of South Africa and Namibia. He said the freedom and liberation of Zimbabwe had formed the model for the complete liquidation of the remaining vestiges of imperialism, colonialism, racialism and neocolonialism in Africa.

Comrade Ekwueme said in this regard Nigeria would fight hard to consolidate the already existing close bonds of friendship between the two countries. In reply Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe has found itself in a position where it has to rely on its own resources in its program of resettlement, rehabilitation and the reconstruction of the economy. He said this has become necessary because the United Kingdom and the United States have not fulfilled their promises for aid. He said financial aid is required for the acquisition of land enough to distribute amongst the land-hungry peasants of Zimbabwe. Comrade Mugabe bitterly attacked the international media for exaggerating the security situation in Zimbabwe. He said the press painted a dreadful picture by amplifying minor inter-party clashes and petty incidents of lawlessness. The prime minister reassured Nigeria that despite all this tremendous progress has been made in restoring peace.

Departure for Salisbury

AB190652 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Nigeria and Zimbabwe have agreed to cooperate in economic and technological areas This is stated in a communique issued in Lagos yesterday at the end of a 3-day official visit of the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, to Nigeria.

Addressing a news conference at the Murtala Mohamed Airport before his departure for home, Mr Mugabe appealed to African nations to join forces to liberate the remaining parts of the continent still under racist South Africa. He also called for aid to the frontline states in view of their limited resources.

On relations between his party, ZANU-PF, and ZAPU of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwean leader stated that there was cooperation between them. He added that immediately after the election victory in that country, his party allocated four ministerial posts to Mr Nkomo's party.

Mr Mugabe was yesterday awarded an honorary doctorate degree in law at the Ahmadou Bello University, Zaria. He also held talks with Nigerian leaders. At a state banquet in his honor, the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, remarked that the historic struggle of the Zimbabwean people for true nationhood under the leadership of Mr Mugabe epitomized the aspiration of all freedom-loving people of the world.

The Zimbabwean leader left Lagos for Salisbury yesterday. He was seen off by the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, and top government officials.

TOGO

AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION WITH ALGERIA SIGNED

AB191034 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The meeting of the first session of the Algerian-Togolese joint commission ended this afternoon at the Party Hose in Lome. The Algerian delegation, led by Mr Said Ait-Messaoudene, member of the Central Committee and minister of light industry, and the Togolese delegation led by Koudjolou Dogo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of planning and administrative reform, examined problems concerning economic, scientific and (?cultural) cooperation.

At the end of the fruitful discussions, the two delegations signed an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation and an agreement on cultural cooperation. These agreements were signed, on the Togolese side, by Mr Anani Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and on the Algerian side by Mr Ait-Messaoudene, minister of light industry.

After the signing of the agreements, a joint communique on the meeting was read by (Komla Abokyi), technical adviser at the Foreign Ministry. The communique notes among other things that the two delegations have agreed to hold the next session of the Algerian-Togolese joint commission in Algiers in 1981. The date for this meeting will be fixed later by a common accord.

ANGOLA

DOS SANTOS REPORTS CENTRAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

AB182031 Paris AFP in French 1642 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Luanda, 18 Dec (AFP)--Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, whom the extraordinary congress of the MPLA-Labor Party confirmed in his functions of president of the republic for another 5-year term, declared on Thursday that the work done during the past 3 years since the transformation of the MPLA into a Marxist-Leninist party was positive, despite past shortcomings and errors.

Mr Dos Santos in this manner concluded, early in the afternoon, the reading of a long report on the activities of the party's Central Committee which he began on Wednesday.

He particularly stressed that the forces of imperialism are showing a growing aggressiveness and that the gap is widening between industrialized and underdeveloped countries.

The Angolan president recalled his country's economic achievments, particularly in the field of oil; however, he underlined the fact that the needs in education, health and above all in food items are currently far from being satisfied. On that point he emphasized the importance which the Ministry of Planning will assume in order to insure a balance development of the economy.

Mr Dos Santos commended the relations of friendship and cooperation with socialist countries, particularly with the Soviet Union and Cuba. He reaffirmed Angola's support for liberation movements, particularly SWAPO (South-West African People's Organization) and the ANC (African National Congress).

In addition, the Angolan president spoke out against the aggressiveness of the Western countries, particularly of the United States, their leader, which aims at the rekindling of the cold war. Lastly, he criticized foreign interventions in Africa, particularly those of French imperialism which, he said, supported Mr Hissein Habre's splinter group in Chad.

Mr Dos Santos recalled steps made by Angola, however, in order to normalize its diplomatic relations and to expand its ties of economic cooperation with Western countries within the framework of the policy of peaceful coexistence.

In the field of internal policy, he repeated the criticisms contained in the presidential speech which, on 10 December, marked the anniversary of the creation of the MPLA-Labor Party; these concerned the persistance of the bourgeois ideology and the activity of the party itself. He took stock of the work done by the rectification movement launched in 1977 in order to improve the work methods and the quality of party members. He affirmed that since the movement was created some 31,000 Angolan have become members (militants or would-be militants) of the MPLA-Labor Party. Out of this number, 51 percent are workers and peasants. According to him, the party had 110,000 members in 1977.

Deliberations are to continue at the committee level behind closed doors.

Lisbon Report

LD190200 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0000 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] The president of the People's Republic of Angola has accused the United States of veritable and grave interference in the internal affairs of his country by seeking to set conditions for the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Speaking at yesterday's session of the extraordinary congress of the MPLA-Labor Party, Jose Eduardo dos Santos stressed that what is in question is not the North American people but rather the militarist policies pursued by their government which, he pointed out, does not reflect the expressed wish of many business circles to maintain and develop trade exchanges with the People's Republic of Angola.

In connection with attempts to interfere in his country's internal affairs, the Angolan president accused the U.S. Government of supporting the Angolan National Liberation Front and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola puppet movements and of lending many-sided support to South Africa in its policy of destabilizing Angola. Jose Eduardo dos Santos stated on the other hand that the MPLA has been making important efforts toward the liberation of peoples, independence and national sovereignty, as well as toward building a new international political order.

The importance attached by Angola to the national liberation movements was indeed enhanced by the presence in the opening session of the congress of representatives of the African National Council of South Africa, the Polisario Front and Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] as well as SWAPO Chairman Sam Nujoma.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON SOUTH AFRICAN ACTIONS

LD190732 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 19 Dec 80 EA

[Ministry of Defense communique issued 18 December on the military-political situation in south Angola]

[Text] At the moment when the United Nations is trying to convene a conference on Namibia in the first half of January 1981 with the object of finding a viable solution to granting independence to the Namibian territory, the racist South African regime continues to unleash bellicose action in the south of our country, particularly in Cunene Province.

On 5 December 1980 at about 1500 two MK-II Impala aircraft of the South African Air Force machinegunned a bus carrying passengers on the Chandongo-Mongoe road, killing a pregnant woman and injuring four civilians.

On 17 December 1980 at about 1500, 16 tanks of the South African territorial forces fired 40 missiles on our border post at Santa Clara, causing heavy material damage. The same day, South African territorial forces in company strength and supported by armed vehicles entered our territory at map reading 26 in the (Melunga-Muluanda) area. Again on the same day, the racist South African forces, supported by armed vehicles, transport vehicles and helicopters, concentrated north of map reading 15 in the (Onongoe) area while at the same time (?five) Hercules C-130 aircraft disembarked paratroops in the same area.

The Ministry of Defense of the People's Republic of Angola would once again like to alert international public opinion to this further dangerous and bellicose act of the hated Pretoria regime against the territorial integrity of our country, which constitutes further proof that this regime is the only factor of war in this part of our continent and which shows the real intentions of the Pretoria racists when agreeing to take their place in Geneva to discuss the plan for Namibian independence.

Office of the minister of defense, Luanda, 18 December 1980,

[Signed] Minister of Defense Col Pedro Mario Tonha Pedale.